

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 16

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON WORLD TRADE

Introduced: 5/11/21

Referred: Resources

A RESOLUTION

1 **Calling on President Biden to immediately seek and secure an end to the embargo**
2 **imposed by Russia on seafood imports from abroad so that Alaska seafood producers'**
3 **access to the Russian domestic seafood market is fully restored.**

4 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 **WHEREAS** Russia instituted an embargo on certain seafood imports in 2014,
6 affecting almost all United States seafood products, including almost all categories of fish,
7 crustaceans, mollusks, and other aquatic invertebrates; and

8 **WHEREAS**, before the embargo, Russia was an important export market for Alaska
9 seafood, with \$61,300,000 in purchases from Alaska seafood producers in 2013, the year
10 preceding the embargo; and

11 **WHEREAS** the embargo has deprived Alaska seafood producers of a market for
12 certain products, including Alaska salmon roe, that have few alternative markets; and

13 **WHEREAS** the lack of access to the Russian domestic seafood market reduces the
14 value of Alaska seafood products and imposes significant and ongoing costs on the state's
15 seafood economy; and

1 **WHEREAS** Russian seafood products compete directly with Alaska seafood products
2 in the United States domestic market and the global market and yet are not subject to an
3 analogous import limitation by the United States or another county; and

4 **WHEREAS** Russian seafood imports continue to enter the United States almost
5 entirely duty-free and have increased by 173 percent since 2013, the year preceding the
6 embargo;

7 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature calls on President Joseph R.
8 Biden to immediately seek and secure an end to the embargo imposed by Russia on United
9 States seafood so that Alaska seafood producers' access to Russia's domestic seafood market
10 is fully restored.

11 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, President
12 of the United States; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Dan Sullivan,
13 U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska
14 delegation in Congress.